

[7 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

Production of atomic power

1640. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that after the World War II and after obtaining independence in 1947 A.D., India is at the mercy of the powerful countries in the matter of atomic power/energy;
- (b) if not, the details of the atomic power/energy produced by India herself and expected;
- (c) how India has been successful to get atomic power/energy from USA, France, Israel, Germany, Japan during the last 30 years to become self-dependent; and
- (d) if not, how this problem is expected to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) India is pursuing a self-reliant three-stage nuclear power programme based on indigenous nuclear resources. As a part of first stage programme, fourteen Pressurised Heavy Water reactors with a cumulative capacity of 3580 MWe are in operation and four such reactors are in an advanced stage of construction. Construction has also started on one 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder reactor of the second stage of the nuclear power programme. In addition to the indigenous programme, reactors based on imports have also been set up as additonalities. Two such reactors are in operation since 1969 and two more 1000 MWe reactors are under construction, being set up in technical cooperation with the Russian Federation. More reactors, based on both indigenous designs and imports, if available, are planned in future, to increase the nuclear power capacity in the country.

Protest against not filling sands

†1641. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any agitation has been staged recently in protest against

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

not filling sands in sufficient quantity below the surface after mining of coal from underground mines in Talcher city which is under the control of M.C.L. situated in Orissa;

(b) whether any memorandum has been submitted to the 'National Human Rights Commission' in this regard; and

(c) whether owing to these very agitations, the higher authorities of M.C.L. have given assurance of starting sand filling by the 15th December?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. One "Talcher Field Band" was called on 12.10.2006 under the leadership of Ex-Chairman, Talcher Municipality in protest against non-filling of sand in some portion of the underground workings of Deulbera Colliery, Talcher Area of Mahanandi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL).

(b) One memorandum has been submitted to the National Human Rights Commission by Shri Kalandi Samal, State Secretary, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, Orissa on 22.08.2006 regarding threat to Talcher town and its adjoining villages due to the mining activities of Deulbera and Handidhua Collieries.

(c) Yes, Sir. MCL has assured to start sand filling for stabilization by 15th December, 2006.

Separation of cutting and loading by SECL

†1642. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the justification of separating, cutting and loading in the tender inviting notice of surface minor machine by SECL Undertaking in the year 2003-04;

(b) whether it is a fact that award of tender to the same company could have been avoided had the cutting and loading in the tender been not separated;

(c) whether it was a deliberate act of SECL administration that if cutting and loading were not separated then the companies other than the said company would also have participated in the tender; and

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